

REMARKS

Claims 4, 15, 28, 29, and 30-54 remain in this application. Claims 28, 32, and 47-49 have been amended. No claims have been added or cancelled. The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §112

The Examiner has rejected claims 32-36 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Applicants submit herein an amendment to claim 32 to overcome the reason for rejection.

The Examiner has rejected claims 28, 29, and 46-54 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Applicants submit herein an amendment to claim 28 to overcome the reason for rejection. Applicants also respectfully point out that as presently recited in claim 28, the at least one hydrophilic group is wet twice, namely once with the immersion lithography fluid, and once with the developer. The amendment makes it clear that the claimed acid labile group is not detached when being wet with the immersion lithography fluid. If the Examiner feels that any additional clarification is needed, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner phone the undersigned to discuss.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the search and for finding allowable subject matter. The Examiner has indicated that claims 4, 15, 30, 31, and 37-57 are allowed. These claims have been presented herein.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all claims now pending patentably define the subject invention over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request that the rejections be withdrawn and the claims be allowed at the earliest possible date.

Request For Telephone Interview

The Examiner is invited to call Brent E. Vecchia at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Request For An Extension Of Time

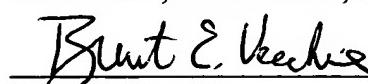
The Applicants respectfully petition for an extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) should one be necessary. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 to cover the necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 for such an extension.

Charge Our Deposit Account

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date: 11-7-05


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